



# South Carolina

## Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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Clemson University

SC State Climatology Office

Farm Service Agency

### GENERAL

Most of South Carolina is continuing to dry out from below average rainfall. Large portions of the Low Country did, however, receive appreciable amounts of rain. The relatively dry weather for much of the state allowed for a lot of work in the fields planting cotton, peanuts, soybeans, and other crops. Despite the increasingly dry situation, cooler than average temperatures have helped most of the field crops remain in mostly good condition. Soil moisture ratings for the week declined to 4% very short, 51% short, and 45% adequate. There was a statewide average of 6.2 days that were suitable for field work.

### FIELD CROPS

The **CORN** crop has just about all emerged, and was in mostly good condition. Corn in some areas was showing signs of twisting during the middle of the day. Fortunately, cooler weather at night, and moderate temperatures during the day have helped. Like the previous week, there has been a lot of **COTTON** activity in the fields. Thrips were having to be controlled in some fields. Cotton was reported as 31% fair, 66% good, and 3% excellent. **OATS** were quickly ripening. Harvest has been progressing well. There were reports of some small grain fields being flattened by high winds from storms. The crop continued to remain in mostly good condition. **PEANUT** planting was still going strong. Conditions were 27% fair, 71% good, and 2% excellent. **SOYBEAN** planting was just about halfway complete, and was ahead last year, and the five-year average. Conditions were little changed from the previous week, remaining in mostly good condition. The **SWEET POTATO** crop was also about half-way planted. The crop was in fair condition. **TOBACCO** was still in very good condition. **WINTER WHEAT** harvest has just begun. Like most of the field crops, wheat was in mostly good condition.

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**LIVESTOCK** conditions were mostly good with the comfortable temperatures. **PASTURE** conditions ranged from poor to mostly good. **GRAIN HAY** harvest was beginning to wind down. **PEACHES** were being reported overall as good, although there has been some hail damage seen along the Ridge. Growers were applying pest controls as routine. **VEGETABLE** conditions were in decline from increasingly dry soils. Some watermelon fields suffered storm damage in Barnwell County.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending May 25, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2008	2007	5-Yr Avg
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Cantaloup, Planted	96	98	97	Peanuts, Planted	69	64	71
Corn, Emerged	98	100	98	Sorghum, Planted	71	82	71
Cotton, Planted	79	80	80	Soybeans, Planted	45	38	39
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	98	99	100	Soybeans, Emerged	29	18	11
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	89	89	83	Sweet Potatoes, Planted	45	41	45
Oats, Turned Color	82	84	80	Watermelons, Planted	97	97	97
Oats, Ripe	40	43	35	Winter Wheat, Turning Color	79	77	81
Oats, Harvested	12	11	4	Winter Wheat, Ripe	25	35	25
Peaches, Harvested	5	0	2	Winter Wheat, Harvested	1	1	1

### Condition for Week Ending May 25, 2008

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples	0	0	75	25	0	Peanuts	0	0	27	71	2
Cantaloup	0	8	48	44	0	Snapbeans	0	21	22	44	13
Corn	0	9	24	63	4	Sorghum	0	0	15	85	0
Cotton	0	2	31	65	2	Soybeans	0	6	33	59	2
Cucumbers	0	10	53	30	7	Sweet Potatoes	0	0	100	0	0
Hay	0	3	43	51	3	Tobacco	0	0	17	81	2
Livestock	0	5	34	60	1	Tomatoes	0	0	33	67	0
Oats	0	2	26	64	8	Watermelons	0	10	45	45	0
Pasture	0	10	36	53	1	Winter Wheat	0	2	26	61	11
Peaches	0	6	14	80	0						

## **South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 25 2008**

Sunny, cool weather was observed on both Monday and Tuesday. Early morning minimum temperatures Tuesday were reported in the 40's. Southerly winds on Wednesday started a warming trend with afternoon high temperatures rising into the 80's. Isolated showers were reported Thursday and Friday. Walterboro measured 1.20 inches of rain. Conway and the Myrtle Beach AP warmed to 88 degrees on Friday afternoon. A weak boundary crossed the state early Saturday bringing cooler air but little in the way of wet weather. On Sunday at 3:53 p.m., drying west winds gusted to 37 mph at the Florence AP. Later in the day, parts of the Upstate and northern Midlands received scattered, light rains. The state average temperature for the period was three degrees below normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 95 degrees at Jamestown on May 20. The lowest official temperature reported was 44 degrees at Lake Bowen and Hunts Bridge on the morning of May 22. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.01 inches at Witherbee ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 21. The state average rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches.

**SOIL:** 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 75 degrees.

**RIVERS AND SURF:** South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 78 degrees.

### **Precipitation**

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.58	16.28	-4.9
Columbia	0.14	14.97	-3.5
Orangeburg	0.25	14.88	-3.6
Charlotte, NC	0.18	13.99	-3.8
Augusta, GA	0.91	16.88	-1.7
Florence	0.65	16.12	-0.4
N Myrtle Beach	0.93	15.97	0.6
Charleston	0.46	13.45	-3.2
Savannah, GA	0.09	12.71	-3.9

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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